awkward. The Examiner's suggestions are appreciated. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

II. Traversal of the Rejection over the Cited Art

The Examiner rejected Claims 1 - 4 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,448,688 to Hemingway. Applicant traverses this rejection below.

A. The Present Invention

The present invention describes a technique for a pointing system in a graphical user interface which corrects position information of a hot spot included in an image template to a coordinate system of an image and repositions and outputs it in a click position.

According to one aspect of the invention, a coordinate obtained from a pointing device is compared to a template image. The best matching template and its position on the image is located. A final pointing position is then calculated based on the located position on the image and position correction information associated with the template.

According to another aspect of the invention, a template is registered and dynamically generated. An image area from an overall image is selected as the subject of a template. The selected image area is stored as a template image. A point in the image area is selected and then stored for association with the corresponding template image as position correction information for the template image.

B. Differences between the Claims and the Cited Art

Hemingway discloses a technique for image position interpretation in a graphics system. In order to understand what action is required when a mouse button is clicked, Hemingway translates the image position pointed to by the mouse into the identity of the corresponding image element. To facilitate this translation, Hemingway generates and stores a compact image representation relating image position to a corresponding segment from a stored group of graphic segments. The compact image representation is then used to translate an input image position back into a segment identity.

Independent Claim 2 recites a system "for registering a template which dynamically generates a template". In reviewing Hemingway, it is clear that Hemingway does not address such subject matter. Specific differences between Claim 2 and Hemingway will now be discussed.

Claim 2 recites "means for selecting an image area from an image to be a subject of a template". Relative to this subject matter, a passage from Column 1, Lines 65-66 is cited. However, this passage merely states "a graphics systems capable of translating a received image position into the identity of the corresponding graphic segment...." This does not teach, suggest or disclose "selecting an image area from an image", the selected area to be the subject of a template. No "selection" is described in this passage of Hemingway. No area is selected to be the subject of a template.

Claim 2 (as amended) also recites "means for storing said image area as a template image". Relative to this subject matter, a passage from Column 2, Lines 4-5 is cited. This passage states that the graphics system includes "segment storage means for storing a plurality of graphic segments that are intended for display". These stored graphic segments are not selected as per the image areas of the first element of Claim 2 discussed above. Nor is it clear that these graphic segments "intended for display" are the same as the image areas selected from an image to be the subject of a template.

Claim 2 also recites "means for storing said selected position as position correction information associated with said template image." Relative to this subject matter, a passage from Column 2 is cited. How this passage discloses the recited subject matter is unclear. There is simply no storage of a selected position from an image area as position correction information in Hemingway.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 2 patentably distinguishes over Hemingway.

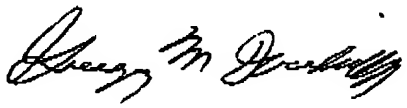
Claims 1, 3 and 4 were also rejected as being anticipated by Hemingway under the same rational for all thee claims.

Claim 1 recites "from the position on said image and position correction information associated with the template, means for calculating a final pointing position." Relative to this subject matter, a passage from Column 3, lines 47-56 is recited. How this passage discloses the recited subject matter is not clear. The passage states that "one image position may correspond to several segments". This is not the same thing as the subject matter from Claim 1. The passage also states that "the ... processing means in determining the identity of the segment corresponding to said received image position, is now arranged to also identify any transparent segments at the same image position." No final pointing position is calculated. This calculation is not performed based on position correction information associated with a template. Rather, different segments which match an image position are determined. These are not the same thing. Accordingly, Applicant submits that amended Claim 1 and thus Claims 3 and 4 patentably distinguish over Hemingway.

III. Summary

Applicant has presented technical explanations and arguments fully supporting his position that the pending claims contain subject matter which is not taught, suggested or disclosed by Hemingway. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the present Application is in a condition for Allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Marked up version of the claims

1. (Once Amended) A system for pointing by using position correction information and an associated image as a template, said system comprising:

means for comparing [with an image of a template] an image in the vicinity of a coordinate obtained from a pointing device with an image of a template;

means for locating a most matching template and its position on an image; and

from the position on said image and position correction information associated with the template, means for calculating a final pointing position.

2. (Once Amended) A system for registering a template which dynamically generates a template, said system comprising:

means for selecting [on an image] an image area, from an image, to be a subject of a template;

means for storing said image area as [an image of] a template image;

means for selecting a point in said image area with a pointing device; and

means for storing said selected position as position correction information associated with said [image of said] template image.